

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

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TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

USLOSACLANT IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205189

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, OTRA

SUBJ: NATO SENIOR POLITICAL COMMITTEE VISIT TO SACLANT

REF: USNATO 5025

1. PROJECTED SPC CHANGE OF SCHEDULE FOR US VISIT FROM 7-10 OCTOBER TO 8-15 OCTOBER WILL CAUSE SUBSTANTIAL PLANNING DIFFICULTIES. DUE TO ABSENCE OF MAJOR USG AND MILITARY OFFICIALS DURING COLUMBUS DAY NATIONAL HOLIDAY WEEKEND (OCTOBER 12-14), QUALITY OF PROGRAM WOULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED.

2. PROSPECT OF SUBSTANTIVE SPC MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ALSO PROBLEMATIC UNDER ALTERED SCHEDULE AS CONGRESS TENTATIVELY EXPECTED TO RECESS ON OCTOBER 11. WHILE ADJOURNMENT MAY BE POSTPONED, PRESS OF BUSINESS
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PRIOR TO DEPARTURE COULD PREVENT SPC FROM MEETING KEY

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

3. SUGGEST MISSION CONSULT WITH SPC REPRESENTATIVES TO DETERMINE IF TRIP POSSIBLE WITH ETA DULLES 6 OCTOBER AND ENDING 11 OCTOBER. THIS WOULD ALLOW OPPORTUNITY FOR FULL SACLANT PROGRAM INCLUDING POSSIBLE TOUR OF SSN AND F-14 BRIEFING FOLLOWED BY STATE/DEFENSE BRIEFINGS IN WASHINGTON AND MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PRIOR TO CONGRESSIONAL ADJOURNMENT. INGERSOLL

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